1841
Words
of
Sacred
&
Solemn
Truth

PAPERS
OF
SHAKERS

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New Lebanon. Second Family. Thursday Morning.

Words of sacred and solemn truth, which were received by your Heavenly Parents, in deep tribulation; from God your Heavenly Father; and which He in his mercy and condescension, will cause to be read to you by the Holy Angel Se ri se ka.

To the ar he ran se co le va;

Draw near, O ye inhabitants of Zion, who are called by my name, and hear the words of God, your Heavenly Father. Long have those of you, who are called to succeed the first-born children of my true and faithful chosen; slumbered in midnight darkness; dwelling at ease in the courts of Zion, and feasting on the good which the faithful first-born of your Heavenly Parents had gained, both in things spiritual and temporal. But lo! the time draws nigh, and hath already come, when the spirit of ease and indulgence, must be rooted out, and the true order and spirit of the gospel planted in every soul, who still holds a place, and calls upon my name, in the habitation

of Zion. For the cries of the ancients and first-born children have ascended to my throne, thro their Heavenly Parents, saith God your Heavenly Father. With my own hand will I gather beneath my wings, those who will hear, receive, and obey my word. And with my own hand will I scatter those who dare turn away from it with scorn. For I am the true and living God: there is none above me, either in Heaven or on earth. Lo my hand is already stretched forth, and none can hinder or stay the work which I am about to accomplish.

None shall inhabit, or dwell in the Zion of my library on earth, save those who delight to keep my word and do my holy will. I have not promised what I cannot perform; neither shall a word pass by which I have spoken. The time has come for my Sanctuary on earth to be cleansed from every vile pollution. The vain pretender and vile hypocrite shall no more present themselves to worship me, before my holy altar. For they are an abomination in my sight. Yea with the breath of my nostrils shall they be blasted, and with

the fire of truth shall they be consumed, therefore, I say unto all ye who would dwell securely within my courts, give ear unto my voice and hear my words, for no more can ye trifle with my words as many of you have done heretofore. As a consuming fire shall I be amongst you till nothing remains in my heritage but what my spirit does own: and ye who will hearken hear and obey my words upon you will I cause showers of rich blessings to descend, and ye shall grow and flourish in my holy kingdom.

I say unto you, O ye Inhabitants of Zion fear, fear exceedingly, and tremble in my presence; for of a truth I the Lord your God am searching thro your camps, yea, and with a light that shall never be extinguished. I have seen & with an eye of heavy displeasure many things that were sorely displeasing in my sight.

Ye have many of you, presented yourselves in my holy Sanctuary and in your sacred places of worship, in the presence of my All seeing eye, yea and with the fruits of the earth, to present as an offering before me. I have beheld

you, and turned away with scorn and rebuke. I loathe your offerings; yea, they were a stink in my nostrils.

Ye have presented yourselves clothed in the garments of of pride, of envy, of strife, of disrespect to the true Order, which I the Lord your God had placed; I do not say this of all, for there are many, yea, many righteous souls among you: But they do have heard of the judgments, the leanness, and barrenness which this spirit (of the children of this world has brought upon you.

Yea, this is the garment as I before have said, that many of you have appeared before me; (under pretence of worshipping me clothed in Instead of being clothed in my holy fear, with heart and soul bowed in holy and solemn reverence, in humility and thankfulness, for my loving and tender mercies. Beautiful gifts have been withheld from you, on this account, because ye were not prepar'd nor able to receive them. Many of you have stood with glaring eye, gazing at; and viewing the children of this world; with no real sense of the holy and sacred requirements that were upon you. You have dragged yourselves carelessly around my holy Altar, without making one offering accepta-

-ble to me. Ye have presented yourselves to sing the holy songs which I in my mercy and condescension have given you to praise my holy name; with lightness in your hearts, yea, and with the spirit of discord, ambition and revenge.

My pretty little simple gifts have ye spoken lightly of, and mocked, and scorned, the true Order which I have established. Thus saith the Lord: these things shall no longer be, for I will, saith the Lord, have a people who shall delight to fear and to reverence my holy name. Wo be to those who still think to slumber within the walls of Zion: for their portion shall be death, and a final separation from me your holy God. Judgments, yea, tenfold judgments, shall I pour upon them, and they shall in no wise escape. Inasmuch, as my divine manifestation and mercy; has been greater than ever was shewn before; even so shall my judgments exceed any thing that heretofore has been; for the mouth of the Lord your God hath spoken it.

Therefore remember ye my sayings and be wise.

Let no one hereafter, attempt to worship me, with any

known or willfull transgression covered & unconfessed. For it has been done, and still is, saith He, from whom nothing is concealed; for by the burning light and fire of truth shall you be searched.

Let every one as they enter the sacred house of worship, bow their spirits low, low, low before me, your Holy God. And before you leave home, devote half an hour in silent meditation and prayer; that my holy spirit may meet with you and bless you. I do require that ye devote your Sabbaths, wholly, to adore and praise my holy name. Let there be no unnecessary or low talking, either before, or after you return from the house of sacred worship. Talking about your dress, those you have seen at meeting; what was said & done &c, in a light-vain sense.

Let your words be few, and those you speak, speak in the fear of God as you have been taught.

My Holy Spirit hath been exceedingly displeased with many things and had it not been for the earnest supplications of your Heavenly Parents, my heavy judgments would have been poured forth upon many. But by the entreaties and prayers of your Heavenly Parents, I have given them

this my word, to come to you. Therefore receive it in your hearts, and know it is the greatest condescension and mercy which can possibly be extended towards you. Let none doubt, or say within your hearts, if this is true, why could it not have come from some other source? For I say, saith the Lord, I work in the true order of my appointment, and for some time past, I have been preparing your minds to receive my Holy word, concerning your public meeting, in the true line whence it should come.

Let your hearts be turned towards me your Holy God, in solemn fear while I speak of the orders which ye have slighted, and which has occasioned much dissension, in my holy and sacred house. Has it not been your orders for those of you who live in diffarent families, and who sing together, for my people to go forth in sacred worship, to sing such songs as were known by the singers in each family? How has this order been attended to, and what has been the consequence?

You have surely deprived yourselves of my blessing, and lost my holy fears, by so doing. And I do require, that this order, henceforth be strictly attended to, for if you think to worship me in a spirit of dissension,

and hardness against each other; you are awfully mistaken! This spirit, belongs to the children of this world, and those who maintain it, it will draw them to its likeness. None can worship me acceptably but those who are wholly devoted; and present themselves in my holy fear, these, and these only, can worship me in Spirit and in truth.

All ye who present yourselves in my holy Sanctuary, to make offerings to me, I call upon you to devote every faculty of both body & soul. Let every one be zealous to learn the songs, that are given for public worship; that ye may worship me in order, in beauty and strength, for in no other way can ye meet with my blessing: or your offerings be accepted. Let no songs be sung while standing still, either in the body or circle, but what are generally known.

Those who will prepare themselves according to my word and appear before me in a garment of meekness, humility and holy fear, and who go forth to worship uprightly, in the Order of God as ye have been taught; upon such souls will I delight to pour my blessing. I will send my Angels of protection, to hover around them;

and no good thing from them will I withhold.

These are the words of God your Heavenly Father; sealed with his holy seal, and also with the seal of all your Heavenly Parents, so saith the holy Angel. They were obtained in sufferings and tribulation, and were communicated to you in the same. And all who will receive these words, and whose determination it is to walk in obedience to them, may receive the love of all your Heavenly Parents, when they hear these words read. It may be received on your knees, after repeating these words. "We thank thee, O Heavenly Father, for thy mercy and condescension, in giving us thy holy word."

Mother Ann says, God, your Heavenly Father, has condescended in his mercy, to give unto you, his holy word. And it is the earnest desire of all your Heavenly Parents, that every such would treasure it up in their hearts, and sense the importance of it, before it be too late; I have, says Mother often assembled with you, and beheld with grief the idle careless sense; in which many of the young have assembled.

Yea, and I have been grieved to see, how little uniformity there was in your solemn exercises.

Some, are so careless they think it is no matter if they can go with the rest, if they dont know how to labor exactly right. But I can tell you that all these things are noticed. Your indifference for the beauty and order of the worship of God is noticed.

Your ranks, O your ranks! I have many times wished the Beloved Lead could see the order in which many of you place yourselves. I have also noticed the order in which you go to, and from the meeting house.

Surely this sense to get along any way, no matter how, has crept in every where.

Now Beloved Elders, says Mother, if you find union with that which is herein written, and also if the Blessed Ministry approve of it, I should be glad to have it read in every Family that attends Public Meeting; and that as soon as possible; for the work is very swift. Yea, says Mother, I want to have it read, and read again, until all shall understand it. Now Beloved Elders,

says Mother; I wish you to receive a large portion of your Mothers holy heavenly love; for you are my true and beloved children, in whom I am well pleased.

Approved by the Ministry and Elders.